GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3147
ANSWERED ON:12.03.2003
ESTABLISHMENT OF RPO, NAGALAND
K. ASUNGBA SANGTAM

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to open a Regional Passport Office in Nagaland;

(b) if so, by when; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI VINOD KHANNA)

a) No.

b) Does not arise.

c) As per the recommendations of the Standing Committee of Parliament for External Affairs, a new passport office should receivean average of at least 50,000 applications per annum over a period of three years. The number of passport applications received from the State of Nagaland is approximately 800 per annum which does not meet the criterion for opening ofa new passport office in the State.

As over half of the passport applications in the North East States are generated from Assam, a Regional Passport Office had been opened at Guwahati on 5th April, 1979, to cater to the North-East States even though the total number of passport applications generated in the North East States are less than the stipulated number of 50,000.

In addition, for the convenience of the public in North-East States, Passport Application Collection Centres at Agartala, Aizawal, Imphal, Itanagar Shillong and Siliguri, and District Passport Cells in all District Head Quartersin Assam, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Manipur, Arunachal Pradesh and Nagaland have been established.